IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant

Koji SATO, et al.

Application No.

08/750.641

Filing Date

16 December 1996

Title

SCHEDULE SETTING AND PROCESSING SYSTEM

Art Unit

Office of Petitions

Examiner

L. Walsh

Mail Stop Petition Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

DECLARATION OF SHAWN W. O'DOWD

I, the undersigned, Shawn W. O'Dowd, make this declaration in support of the Renewed Petition for Revival of an Application for Patent Abandoned Unintentionally Under 37 CFR § 1.137(b) ("Renewed Petition") for the above identified application.

- 1. Since about June 12, 1989, I have served as an employee and a partner of Kenyon & Kenyon LLP ("Kenyon") in Kenyon's Washington, DC and San Jose offices.
- 2. During my employment and tenure as a partner at Kenyon, I had numerous responsibilities, including prosecuting patent applications for Toyota Jidosha Kabushiki Kaisha ("Toyota"), the assignee of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/750,641 ("641").
- 3. On or about July of 2007, I was docketed as a supervising partner for the '641 application. I was docketed as a supervising partner because of the retirement of a prior supervising attorney/partner, John C. Altmiller.
- 4. Prior to July of 2007, I had prosecuted and/or supervised the prosecution of numerous other Toyota prosecution matters.
- 5. On August 8, 2008, I filed a petition under 37 CFR 1.137(b) (the "Original Petition"), indicating that any delay in paying the issue fee in '641 was unintentional.

- 6. The USPTO mailed a Dismissal relating to the Original Petition on September 10, 2008.
- 7. I had several questions regarding the Dismissal, and attempted to contact Examiner Walsh regarding the same; however, Examiner Walsh was away from her usual examining functions for much of September and October (e.g., for extended training). On October 24, 2008, I was able to discuss the petition with Examiner Walsh.
- 8. My primary concern was the Examiner's many requirements relating to "all persons . . . having firsthand knowledge of the circumstances surrounding the protracted delay," such as the requirement for statements and "[c]opies of any correspondence relating to the filing, or to not filing a further reply to the outstanding Office action." (See Dismissal at 2-3.) After the discussion with Examiner Walsh on October 24, 2008 involving the facts and witnesses available to us at this time, Examiner Walsh indicated that especially in light of the fact that only the payment of an issue fee was at issue in this case, it would not be necessary at this time to go to extraordinary measures to get statements from all persons having firsthand knowledge of the circumstances surrounding the delay.
- 9. Nevertheless, I, as well as associates at Kenyon, have made extensive efforts in the preparation of the Renewed Petition. We have intensely examined the paper file wrapper of the '641 application to determine the identity of the various persons at Kenyon who worked on the prosecution of '641 application and to compile the many efforts by these Kenyon attorneys and staff to further prosecution of the '641 application. This investigation included contacting several former Kenyon employees, including, *inter alia*, an attorney who was no longer engaged in the active practice of patent law, and an attorney who worked for a law firm in Tokyo, Japan. Through contacting these former Kenyon employees, Applicants are able to provide further detail regarding the events which ultimately resulted in the delay in this case.
- 10. In October and November of 2008, I contacted Mark Neblett regarding '641. He had no specific information or knowledge relating to '641, the abandonment thereof, and the discovery of the same. However, as he could give some insight as to the circumstances surrounding the filing of the File Reconstruction request of March 23, 2001, Mr. Neblett has submitted a declaration in support of the Renewed Petition.

- 11. In October of 2008, I contacted John Altmiller, a Kenyon partner listed on the '641 declaration, regarding '641. He had no specific information or knowledge relating to '641, the abandonment thereof, and the discovery of the same. However, as he was a supervising attorney for the case until his retirement in or about March of 2007, Mr. Altmiller has submitted a declaration in support of the Renewed Petition.
- 12. In November of 2008, I contacted Sterlon Mason, a former prosecuting associate who resigned from Kenyon on or about July 21, 2000, regarding '641. He had no specific information or knowledge relating to '641, the abandonment thereof, and the discovery of the same.
- 13. In November of 2008, I contacted Frank Pietrantonio, a partner who resigned from Kenyon on or about May 1, 2000, regarding '641. He had no specific information or knowledge relating to '641, the abandonment thereof, and the discovery of the same. While his name was listed on the '641 declaration, Frank Pietrantonio indicated to me that he was not substantively involved with any Toyota prosecutions.
- 14. In November of 2008, I contacted Japanese counsel for Toyota regarding '641. Japanese counsel for Toyota reviewed their file history for '641 and confirmed that Toyota has always been desirous of obtaining a patent related to '641, and that no instructions had been received or given to cease prosecution of '641.
- 15. I have spoken with Daniel Shanley, a current Kenyon associate regarding '641. Prior to July 10, 2008, he had no specific information or knowledge relating to '641, the abandonment thereof, and the discovery of the same. Mr. Shanley has submitted a declaration in support of the Renewed Petition.
- 16. I have spoken with Ingrid Hodge, a current Kenyon employee regarding '641. Prior to July 10, 2008, she had no specific information or knowledge relating to '641, the abandonment thereof, and the discovery of the same. Ms. Hodge has submitted a declaration in support of the Renewed Petition.
- 17. I have spoken with Judith Russo, a current Kenyon employee regarding '641. Prior to July 10, 2008, she had no specific information or knowledge relating to '641, the

abandonment thereof, and the discovery of the same. Ms. Russo has submitted a declaration in support of the Renewed Petition.

- 18. Based on my review of a copy of USPTO's filewrapper for '641, the USPTO mailed an Advisory Action regarding '641 to Kenyon on February 29, 2000. The address on the cover page of the Advisory Action listed Kenyon's address as "1025 CONNECTICUT AVENUE NW." (Exh. 1.)
- 19. On February 29, 2000, the offices of Kenyon were no longer located at "1025 CONNECTICUT AVENUE NW" in Washington, DC. Less than one year prior to February 29, 2000, in March of 1999, Kenyon had moved its offices to 1500 K Street, NW, also in Washington DC.
- 20. As evidenced by an entry into Kenyon's computerized docketing system, the Advisory Action of February 29, 2000 was received by Kenyon. (Exh. 2.)
- 21. In response to the Advisory Action, Applicants filed a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) with the USPTO on March 15, 2000, along with a fee of \$800. (Exh. 3.) The mailing of the CPA was entered into Kenyon's computerized docketing system. (Exh. 2.)
- 22. The Transmittal Form for the CPA filed March 15, 2000 listed "1500 K Street, N.W." as the address of Kenyon. (Exh. 3.)
- 23. Based on my review of a copy of Kenyon's filewrapper for '641, on March 29, 2000, Applicants filed a Preliminary Amendment with the USPTO via facsimile. (Exh. 4.) The Preliminary Amendment faxed to the USPTO on March 29, 2000 listed "1500 K Street, N.W." as the address of Kenyon. (Exh. 4.)
- 24. Based on my review of a copy of USPTO's filewrapper for '641, on April 17, 2000, the USPTO mailed a Notice of Allowability to Kenyon at "1025 CONNECTICUT AVENUE NW" in Washington, DC. The Notice of Allowability was "responsive to amendment filed 3/29/00." (Exh. 5.)

- 25. Prior to April 17, 2000, staff at Kenyon had been instructed to change the correspondence addresses of the many cases then prosecuted by Kenyon's Washington, DC office. However, by April 17, 2000, all cases had not yet been processed, including '641.
- 26. Based on my review of the docket report for '641 (Exh. 2), Kenyon did not receive the Notice of Allowability.
- 27. Based on my review of a copy of USPTO's filewrapper for '641, a copy of the "ISSUE FEE TRANSMITTAL" form is contained within the USPTO filewrapper for '641. The copy is not signed. Furthermore, the copy is stamped "MATCH & RETURN" and "RECEIVED APR 17 2000 TC 3600 MAILROOM." (Exh. 6.)
- 28. The Notice of Allowability indicates that an issue fee of \$1210 was due on July 17, 2000. (Exh. 5.)
- 29. Based on my review of the file wrapper and docket report for '641 (Exh. 2), there is no evidence that Kenyon paid or attempted to pay a \$1210 issue fee for '641.
- 30. Based on my review of a copy of USPTO's filewrapper for '641, on September 13, 2000, the USPTO mailed a Notice of Abandonment to Kenyon at "1025 CONNECTICUT AVENUE NW" in Washington, DC. The Notice of Abandonment was stamped with a message "ABANDONMENT CONTACT PERSON IS: TOM HAWKINS 305-8380." (Exh. 7.)
- 31. To my knowledge, there is no evidence in Kenyon files, nor in the '641 USPTO file wrapper that Tom Hawkins, or anyone else at the USPTO, attempted to contact Kenyon via telephone prior to mailing the Notice of Abandonment.
- 32. Based on my review of the docket report for '641 (Exh. 2), Kenyon did not receive the Notice of Abandonment.
- 33. Based on my review of a copy of Kenyon's filewrapper for '641, on October 2, 2000, John C. Altmiller (Reg. No. 25,951) of Kenyon signed a Change of Correspondence Address changing the correspondence address of '641 to that of customer number 23838. (Exh. 8.)

- 34. Based on my review of a copy of USPTO's filewrapper for '641, the Change of Correspondence Address was stamped as received by OIPE on October 3, 2000, as received by Technology Center 2800 on October 4, 2000, and as received by Technology Center 2700 on October 6, 2000. There is no other evidence in the '641 USPTO filewrapper that the Change of Correspondence Address signed October 2, 2000 was considered by the USPTO. (Exh. 9.)
- 35. Based on my review of a copy of Kenyon's filewrapper for '641, on October 30, 2000, Robert Hails (Reg. No. 39,702) of Kenyon transmitted by facsimile a second Change of Correspondence Address to Examiner Olga Hernandez. The second Change of Correspondence Address form indicated that future communications should be sent to John C. Altmiller of Kenyon at 1500 K Street, N.W. in Washington, DC. (Exh. 10.)
- 36. Based on my review of a copy of the USPTO's filewrapper for '641, the second Change of Correspondence Address was stamped as received by Group 3600 on October 30, 2000. This paper is marked as paper #19, initialed by DRS, and dated June 12 of an unknown year (the retrieved copy reads "6-12-0" the final number appears to have been cut-off upon copying). (Exh. 11.)
- 37. Based on my review of a copy of Kenyon's filewrapper for '641, an Associate Power of Attorney appointing "John C. Altmiller (Reg. No. 25,951) and other registered practitioners of Kenyon included in [Customer Number 23858]" was stamped as received by the USPTO on December 11, 2000. The paper, which had Kenyon's New York office address at the bottom of the page, is dated November 6, 2000, and is signed by Edward W. Greason (Reg. No. 18,918). (Exh. 12.)
- 38. Based on my review of the '641 USPTO filewrapper, there is no evidence that the Associate Power of Attorney was considered by the USPTO.
- 39. Based on my review of a copy of Kenyon's filewrapper for '641, on January 12, 2001, Cathy Ryan at Kenyon learned from a "[c]onversation w/ group receptionist" that the USPTO file for '641 was reported lost on November 27, 2000, the last known destination for the file being "the file repository." Cathy Ryan also left a message with Examiner O. Hernandez at

10:45 AM. The Examiner called back at 2:45 "to verify that file is in Depository." A note written next to the record of the 10:45 message indicates "Power to Inspect." (Exh. 13.)

- 40. Based on my review of a copy of Kenyon's filewrapper for '641, a "POWER TO INSPECT AND MAKE COPIES" was signed by John C. Altmiller on February 7, 2001. A hand written note on the top of the document indicates "LOST 1/16/01." A sticky note signed by "Cathy" attached to the document indicates "Denise/Jay to go over 2/8/01." (Exh. 14.)
- 41. Based on my review of a copy of Kenyon's filewrapper for '641, a File Reconstruction request was stamped as received by "Licensing & Review" on March 23, 2001. The paper indicates:

We have been informed by the Office that the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's file for [08/750,641] has been lost. Please find attached a copy of the relevant documents forming the file history for this application from the applicant's files for use in reconstructing the Office's file.

Please reconstruct the file. Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please contact [Mark H. Neblett (Reg. No. 42,028)], for any questions.

The paper was signed by Mark H. Neblett. The postcard is dated March 22, 2001. (Exh. 15.)

- 42. Based on my review of a copy of USPTO's filewrapper for '641, there is no evidence that the File Reconstruction request was considered by the USPTO.
- 43. Based on my review of Kenyon's docketing records, on July 15, 2002, an entry was made into the electronic docketing system at Kenyon indicating "PTO lost file-awaiting OA." (Exh. 2.)
- 44. According to the Human Resources department of Kenyon, on July 31, 2003, Mark H. Neblett resigned from employment at Kenyon.
- 45. Based on my review of a copy of Kenyon's filewrapper for '641, a paper entitled "STATUS INQUIRY" signed by John C. Altmiller was filed with the USPTO. The paper, which is dated September 8, 2003, "respectfully request[s] that the Examiner inform Applicants of the status of the application." The paper further indicates that "The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office notified Applicants that the subject file had been lost and, accordingly, Applicants filed a copy of the relevant documents forming the file history in a File Reconstruction on March 23,

- 2001." The paper also authorized the Commissioner to "charge any fee relevant to this filing to Kenyon & Kenyon Deposit Account No. 11-0600." The paper has Kenyon's 1500 K Street, N.W. address at the bottom of the page. (Exh. 16.)
- 46. A stamped postcard confirming the receipt of the Status Inquiry of September 8, 2003 is also present in Kenyon's filewrapper for '641. (Exh. 17.)
- 47. Based on my review of a copy of USPTO's filewrapper for '641, there is no evidence the Status Inquiry of September 8, 2003 was considered by the USPTO.
- 48. Based on my review of a copy of Kenyon's filewrapper for '641, according to a postcard, an Information Disclosure Statement and accompanying papers was stamped as received by the USPTO (OIPE) on November 18, 2003. (Exh. 18.)
- 49. Based on my review of a copy of the USPTO's filewrapper for '641, an Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) signed by William E. Curry (Reg. No. 43,572) and dated November 18, 2003 was filed by Kenyon. The IDS lists Kenyon's 1500 K Street, N.W. address. The IDS is stamped as being received by Group 3600 on November 24, 2003. According to the IDS, as well as the cover of the '641 USPTO filewrapper, the IDS was designated as Paper #20. The IDS indicates that the designation of '#20" was given on February 13, 2004 ("2/13/4"). (Exh. 19.)
- 50. Based on my review of a copy of Kenyon's filewrapper for '641, according to a postcard, an Information Disclosure Statement and accompanying papers was stamped as received by the USPTO (OIPE) on September 9, 2004. (Exh. 20.)
- 51. Based on my review of a copy of the USPTO's filewrapper for '641, an Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) signed by William E. Curry (Reg. No. 43,572) and dated September 9, 2004 was filed by Kenyon. The IDS lists Kenyon's 1500 K Street, N.W. address. The IDS is stamped as being received by Group 3600 on September 15, 2004. According to the IDS, as well as the cover of the '641 USPTO filewrapper, the IDS was designated as Paper #21. (Exh. 21.)

52. Based on my review of a copy of Kenyon's filewrapper for '641, a paper entitled "REQUEST FOR STATUS" signed by William E. Curry (Reg. No. 43,572) is present in Kenyon's paper files. The paper, which is dated September 15, 2004, indicated:

A request for continued prosecution with an Information Disclosure Statement was filed in this case on 15 March 2000. A preliminary amendment was faxed to the Examiner on 29 March 2000. A change of correspondence address was filed on 30 October 2000. Thereafter, a copy of the entire file was submitted for re-construction of the lost file on 23 March 2001. A status inquiry was filed on 8 September 2003. Information Disclosure Statements were filed on 18 November 2003 and 9 September 2004, respectively.

It is respectfully requested that the undersigned [William E. Curry] be informed when an Office Action or other communication from the Patent Office may be expected in this case.

The paper has Kenyon's 1500 K Street, N.W. address at the bottom of the page. A stamped postcard confirms that the USPTO received the paper on September 15, 2004. (Exh. 22.)

- 53. Based on my review of a copy of USPTO's filewrapper for '641, there is no evidence that the Request for Status of September 15, 2004 was considered by the USPTO.
- 54. According to Kenyon's Human Resources department, in January 2007, William E. Curry's employment ended at Kenyon.
- 55. According to Kenyon's human resources department, on July 31, 2007, John C. Altmiller resigned from employment at Kenyon.
- 56. Contemporaneous with John C. Altmiller's resignation, I was docketed as the attorney responsible for '641.
- 57. Based on my review of a copy of USPTO's filewrapper for '641, on June 27, 2008, Japanese patent counsel for Applicants' faxed a letter to Kenyon inquiring as to the status of '641. The communication was addressed to William E. Curry.
- 58. Based on my review of a copy of USPTO's filewrapper for '641, on July 10, 2008, Japanese patent counsel for Applicants' faxed a reminder communication to Kenyon.

- 59. I did not know or even suspect that the '641 patent was abandoned until on or after July 10, 2008. To my recollection, Daniel Shanley, informed me of the abandoned status of '641, after made an investigation into the status of '641.
- 60. On or about July 23, 2008, I took primary responsibility for filing a petition to revive with the USPTO.
- 61. Based on the above information, as well as my recollection regarding the prosecution of Toyota cases, it is my conclusion that the Notice of Allowance for '641 was not received by Kenyon, but rather, was returned to the USPTO as undeliverable.
- 62. Based on the above information, as well as my recollection regarding the prosecution of Toyota cases, it is my conclusion that the Notice of Abandonment for '641 was similarly not received by Kenyon.
- 63. I do not recall of a case during my employment at Kenyon where I requested the Office to reconstruct an application file after that application had been abandoned.
- 64. Prior to July 10, 2008, I do not recall the Office or anyone at Kenyon advising me that '641 had been abandoned.
- 65. I do not recall the client or anyone at Kenyon ever requesting me to allow '641 to become abandoned.
- 66. To my knowledge and belief, the entire delay in filing the required reply for '641 from the due date for the reply until the filing of a grantable petition pursuant to 37 CFR 1.137(b) was unintentional.

I declare that all of the above statements made based on my own knowledge are true and that all of the above statements that were made on information and belief are believed to be true, and further declare that these statements are made with the knowledge that knowing, willful and materially false statements, as are defined under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, are punishable by fine, imprisonment, or both under Section 1001, and that such statements may affect the validity of any patent issuing from '641 if the application is revived.

Shawn W. O'Dowd

EXHIBIT 1 TO O'DOWD DECLARATION

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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EXHIBIT 2 TO O'DOWD DECLARATION

01-Dec-1994 Japan

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Patent Jacket Data Sheet

8. O'DOWD DANIEL G. SHANLEY

P25630 USW Client Red Office DC

I. SCHEUGENPFLUG

THE SCHEDULE SETTING AND PROCESSING SYSTEM

Prosecution Particulars

Prosecution Status Live - Pending Prosty Claimed 6-298280

Parent PCT/JP9302459
Application 08/750641
Filed on Publication

Allowed Grant Pees Paid Gront Expiry

Agent KENYON N.Y.

Parties
Applicant/Rogd.TOYOTA JIDOSHA KABUS

Inventor KIZU, Massatumi Inventor MORITA, Makolo Inventor SATO, Kaji

Inventor YAMASPITA. Masanobu

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16-Dec-1698 30 MONTH NATIONAL PHASE APPLIC			10-Dec-1995
16-Dec-1986 IDS Due	16-Dec-1998	18-Des-1998	10-Dec-1996
16-Dec -1995 Preliminary Amendment	18-Occ-1988	16-Doc-1996	18-Doc - 1988
16-Dec-1998 Recordat	16-Onc-1998	18-Dec-1998	16-Occ-1985
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18-#4am -1997 IDS — suppor IDS	18-Mdr-1997	18-Mar-1997	18-Mar -1997
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19-Jun -1999 Ruspond to Official Action	09-Nov-1599	09-Nov-1999	12-Oct - 1999
23-Nov-1990 R116 Response to Final Due	23 -Jan - 2000	23-Jan -2000	23-Fab -2000
73-Nov-1999 Notice of Apparal Due	23-Fab -2000	23 -May - 2000	15-Mar -2008
CPA Appi'n. Filed	15 Mar -2000	15-Mar-2000	15-Mar -2000
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38-Sep -2003 Statue Inquiry	08-Sep-2003	08-Sep-2003	Q9 -Sap -2003
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5-Sep-2004 Letter to PTO	15 -Sep -2004	15-Sep-2004	15-Sep-2004
8-Aug-2008 Peditor Filed	8005-QuA-80	06 Aug -2008	08-Aug-2008
6-Aug-2008 Request Continued Examination	06-Aug-2008	06-Aug -2008	DG-Aug-2008
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EXHIBIT 3 TO O'DOWD DECLARATION

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EXHIBIT 4 TO O'DOWD DECLARATION

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KENYON & KENYON

1500 K Street, NW Washington, DC 20005 (202)220-4200 Fax: (202)220-4201

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TO:

EXAMINER OLGA HERNANDEZ

FAX NO:

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DATE:

March 29, 2000

FROM:

Sterlon Mason

Kenyon & Kenyon

SUBJECT:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT TO CPA FOR U.S. APPLN. SERIAL NO.

08/750,641

CLIENT/MATTER NO.: 77792/23

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MESSAGE:

PATENT Docket No. 77792/23

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventors

Koji SATO cı al.

Serial No.

08/750,641

Filed

December 16, 1996

For

SCHEDULE SETTING AND PROCESSING

SYSTEM

Group Art Unit

2316

Examiner

O. Hernandez

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELEMINARY AMENDMENT

SIR

By Office Action dated November 23, 1999, pending claims 1-6 were finally rejected and claims 7-10 were objected to.

Applicants filed a Response to Final Office Action Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.116 on February 23, 2000, submitting remarks to traverse the rejections. However, by Advisory Action dated February 29, 2000, the rejections were maintained.

Applicants therefore filed a Request for a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.53(d) on March 15, 2000.

Please enter the following amendments prior to examination of the above-identified application.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 1 as follows. All of the claims have been presented for the Examiner's convenience.

 (Three Times Amended) A schedule-set-up management system comprising: inputting means for entering at least destination information and desired arrival time information;

Serial No. 08/750,641 Docket: 77792/23

frame-preparing means for preparing a basic frame of a schedule including types of intermediate and final locations, and a transfer order, <u>indicating a chronological sequence</u> of events in said basic frame based on said destination information and desired arrival time information; and

schedule-preparing means for accessing a data base to retrieve specific facilities fitting said basic frame, thereby preparing a schedule in which intermediate and final locations are specified.

- 2. (Unchanged) The schedule-set-up management system is accordance with Claim 1, wherein said frame-preparing means selects one basic frame of a schedule which fits said destination information and desired arrival time information from a plurality of basic frames pre-stored in a memory device.
- 3. (Unchanged) The schedule-set-up management system in accordance with Claim 1, wherein said inputting means and frame-preparing means are disposed in a terminal device, said schedule-preparing means disposed in a bost device, said terminal device and host device are connected via a communication line, said terminal device transmits said basic frame-prepared by said frame preparing means to said host device, said host device transmits said schedule prepared by said schedule-preparing means to said terminal device.
- 4. (Unchanged) The schedule-set-up management system in accordance with Claim 3, wherein said terminal device has a display means for displaying: a touch switch used for entering said destination information and desired arrival time information; said prepared basic frame; and said transmitted schedule.
- (Unchanged) The schedule-set-up management system in accordance with
 Claim 1, further comprising:

route-searching means for searching an optimum route for carrying out said schedule using man data.

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- 6. (Unchanged) The schedule-set-up management system in accordance with claim 3, wherein said terminal device disconnects the communication line connecting with said host device after transmitting said basic frame, and reconnects the communication line connecting with said host device after completing the preparation of said schedule in order to receive said schedule.
- (Unchanged) The schedule-set-up management system in accordance with Claim 1, further comprising:
- a watch center for watching the implementation of said schedule, wherein said schedule-preparing means re-prepares a schedule based on information from said watching center.
- 8. (Unchanged) The schedule-set-up management system in accordance with Claim 7, wherein said watching center has information-obtaining means for obtaining position information of a schedule implementer, information of the intermediate locations in said schedule and traffic information between the intermediate locations, the obtained information being supplied to said schedule-preparing mean.
- 9. (Unchanged) The schedule-set-up management system in accordance with Claim 8, wherein said information-obtaining means of said watching center further obtains weather information, and supplies the obtained weather information to said schedulepreparing means.
- 10. (Unchanged) The schedule-set-up management system in accordance with Claim 7, wherein said schedule-preparing means evaluates the influence of the information supplied from said watching center of the implementation of said schedule, and again prepares a schedule based on evaluation results.

REMARKS

The final Office Action mailed November 23, 1999 and the Advisory Action mailed February 29, 2000 have been carefully reviewed and the foregoing amendments and

Serial No. 08/750,641 Docker 77792/23

following remarks are made thereto. Claims 1-10 are presently pending in this application for consideration.

As a preliminary matter, Applicants thank Examiner Hernandez for her courtesies extended to Applicants' representative during the March 23, 2000 telephonic interview. The substance of the interview is embodied in the following remarks.

The final Office Action rejects claims 1-4 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,237,499 to Garback in view of travel planning system (travelersnet.com) [hereinafter "Travelers"] and U.S. Patent No. 4,862,357 to Ahlstrom et al. [hereinafter "Ahlstrom"] and claim 5 under the same as being unpatentable over the combination of Garback and Travelers in further view of U.S. Patent No. 5,757,289 to Nimura et al. [hereinafter "Nimura"]. In addition, the Advisory Action indicates that Applicants' arguments were not directed to the claimed subject matter.

Applicants respectfully submit that the amended claims are patentably distinguishable over the cited references as required by §103. Applicants further submit that the cited references fail to disclose "a frame-proparing means for proparing a basic frame of a schedule including types of intermediate and final locations, and a transfer order indicated a chronological sequence of events in said basic frame, based on said destination information and desired arrival time information" as recited in independent claim 1. Thus, these claims are allowable over the cited references.

A "transfer order" refers to a chronological sequence of events in a basic frame. One example of such a sequence is described in the specification, on page 11, lines 8-15, in which the transfer order of events is as follows: departure \rightarrow walk \rightarrow fonch \rightarrow amusement park \rightarrow night view \rightarrow return back. Another example is also shown on page 12. The basic frame of the present invention consists of a type of location and the transfer order, and a more specific schedule is prepared based on this basic frame. The idea of the present invention in which the basic frame comprising the type and order is initially determined is not disclosed in the cited references.

Conclusion

Examination of this application in light of the foregoing amendment is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (202) 220-4240 to discuss

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any matter concerning this application.

The Office is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 or 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

Respectfully submitted,

KENYON & KENYON

Dated: March 29, 2000

Reg. No. 41,179

KENYON & KENYON 1500 K Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20005 tel: 202/220-4200

fax: 202/220-4201

EXHIBIT 5 TO O'DOWD DECLARATION

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EXHIBIT 10 TO O'DOWD DECLARATION

PATENT Dockel No. 77792/23

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS

Koji SATO, et al.

SERIAL NO.

08/750,641

FILED

December 16, 1996

FOR

SCHEDULE SETTING AND PROCESSING SYSTEM

GROUP ART UNIT:

2316

EXAMINER

O. Hernandez

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington D.C. 20231

CHANGE OF CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

SIR:

Notice is hereby given that the correspondence address in the above-identified application has changed. Please address all future communications regarding this application to:

John C. Altmiller KENYON & KENYON 1500 K Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20006

This address change is effective immediately. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

KENYON & KENYON

Dated: October 30, 2000

John C. Altmiller (Reg. No. 25,951) Robert L. Hails, Jr. (Reg. No. 39,702)

KENYON & KENYON 1500 K Street, N.W., Suite 700 Washington, DC 20005 (202) 220-4200 (202) 220-4201 (fax)

OC01 322791 v 1

EXHIBIT 11 TO O'DOWD DECLARATION

FROM RENYON & KENYON DC

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Kenyon & Kenyon

1500 K SIREE! NW Watermon, 80 20005 (2021230-4200 Fan 16061220-420 • 3661 HM

FACSIMILE COVER SHEET

TO: Examiner Olgo Hemandez FAX RECEIVED

FAXING: 703 305-3697 007 5 0 200

MIT: October 30, 2000 GROUP 3600

FROM: Robert L. Hells, Jr. (202 220-4235)

Patent Application 5.N. 08/750,641

77792/23

NO.0F PAGES
INCLUDING COVER: 2

Please call (202)220-4297 if any pages were not received or are Hogible.

MESSAGE:

Please agter the enclosed communication in application S.N. 08/750,641.

Regards,

Bob Hails

The information contained in this firstlinite is atterney privileged and confidential information intended only for the use of the recipient, named above, if you are not the intended recipions, or the person responsible to dislives a to the intended recipions, you are centified that any dissonination, distribution or consung of this communication is should prohibited. If you have received that forcing the forcing of the communication is should be entered to the content of the prohibited of the content of the co

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT'S

Koji SATO, et al. "

SERIAL NO.

08/750,641

FILED

December 16, 1996

FOR

SCHEDULE SETTING AND PROCESSING SYSTEM

GROUP ART UNIT:

2316

EXAMINER

O. Hermandez

FAX RECEIVED

901 3 0 2000

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

GROUP 3600

Washington D.C. 20231

CHANGE OF CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

SIR:

Notice is hereby given that the correspondence address in the above-identified application has changed. Please address all future communications regarding this epplication to:

> John C. Altmiller KENYON & KENYON 1500 K Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20006

This address change is effective immediately. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

KENYON & KENYON

Dated: October 30, 2000

Robert L. Hails, Ir. (Rog. No. 39,702)

KENYON & KENYON 1500 K Street, N.W., Stille 700 Washington, DC 20005 (202) 220-4200 (202) 220-4201 (fax)

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EXHIBIT 12 TO O'DOWD DECLARATION

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OTP E

PATENT Docket No.: 77792/23

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT

SERIAL NO.

08/750641

FILING DATE

December 16, 1996

FOR

SCHEDULE SETTING AND PROCESSING SYSTEM

Commissioner of Patents and Tredemarks Washington D.C. 20231

ASSOCIATE POWER OF ATTORNEY

Sir.

Please recognize John C. Altmiller, (Reg. No. 25,951) and other registered practitioners of Kenyon & Kenyon included in the Customer Number provided below, with full power to prosecute said application, to make alterations and amendments therein, and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

CUSTOMER NUMBER: 23838

Respectfully submitted,

Date Morenter 6, 2000

Edward W. Greeson Reg. No. 18,918

KENYON & KENYON One Broadway New York, NY 10004 (212) 425-7200 (telephona)

peor 333824 v 1

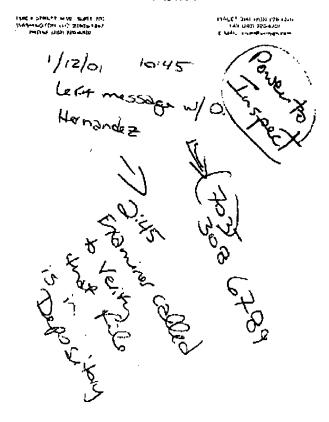
EXHIBIT 13 TO O'DOWD DECLARATION

CATHY RYAN

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Conversation w/ Group receptions
File has been reported lostin USPTO (11/27th) The
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file repository. There
is no record of
any one ordering this
file. I recommend contacting
the Examiner to see if
they need our fele to
rebuild the rost one.

CATHY RYAN



CENTRAL FAX CENTER

DEC 1 0 2008

EXHIBIT 14 TO O'DOWD DECLARATION

LOST 1/16/01

PATENT Docket No. 77792/23

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventors

Koji SATO et al.

Serial No.

08/750,641

Filed

December 16, 1996

Por

SCHEDULE SETTING AND PROCESSING SYSTEM

Examiner

O. Heroandez

Assistant Commissioner of Patents Washington D.C. 20231

POWER TO INSPECT AND MAKE COPIES

SER:

Denise English and Jay Johnson are hereby authorized to inspect and copy the file for the above-reptioned matter.

Respectfully submitted.

KENYON & KENYON

Desc: 2/7/0/ 2001

one C. Altmitter, Registration No. 25,951

MANYON & KENYON 1900 K Street, N.W. Sulte 700 Washington, D.C. 20005 Telephone: (202) 220-4200

Facsimile: (202) 220-4201

LOST 1/16/01

PATENT Docket No. 77792/23

2/7/01

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Invent

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SIR:

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ct and copy the file for the

John C. Altmiller, Registration No. 25,951

KENYON & KENYON 1300 K Street, N.W. Suite 700

Washington, D.C. 20005 Telephone: (202) 220-4200 Facsimile: (202) 220-4201

DEC 1 0 2008

EXHIBIT 15 TO O'DOWD DECLARATION

PATENT Docket No.: 77792/23

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT

Koji SATO, et al.

SERIAL NO.

08/750,641

FILING DATE

December 16, 1996

FOR

SCHEDULE SETTING AND PROCESSING SYSTEM

GROUP ART UNIT:

2316

EXAMINER

O. HERNANDEZ

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

FILE RECONSTRUCTION

SIR

We have been informed by the Office that the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's file for the above-referenced case has been lost. Please find attached a copy of the relevant documents forming the file history for this application from the applicant's files for use in reconstructing the Office's file.

Please reconstruct the file. Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please contact the undersigned at 202-220-4232, for any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark H. Noblett Reg. No. 42,028

DÇ01 581128 v 1

The stamp of the Patent Office hereon— 2y he taken as acknowledging the receipt, on the date stamped, of

APPLICANTS:

Kojji SATO, et al.

SERIAL NO.:

08/750,641

FILED:

December, 16, 1996

FOR:

SCHEDULE SETTING AND PROCESSING

SYSTEM

2316

GROUP ART UNIT:

PAPERS FILED:

1. File Reconstruction

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77792/23

3/22/0

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DEC 1 0 2008

EXHIBIT 16 TO O'DOWD DECLARATION

PATENT

DOCKET NO.: 77792/23

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT(S):

Koji SATO et al.

SERIAL NO.:

08/750,641

FILED:

December 16, 1995

FOR:

SCHEDULE SETTING AND PROCESSING SYSTEM

ART UNIT:

EXAMINER: O. Flemendez

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.Q. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

STATUS INQUIRY

SIR:

Applicants for the above-cited U.S. application respectfully request that the Examiner inform Applicants of the status of the application. Applicants filed the application on December 16, 1996 and received an official Piling Receipt on March 14, 1997.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office notified Applicants that the subject file had been lost and, accordingly, Applicants filed a copy of the relevant documents forming the file history in a File Reconstruction on Merch 23, 2001.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee relevant to this filling to Konyon & Konyon Deposit Account No. 11-0600. A displicate of this short is attached.

Respectivity submitted,

(Reg. No. 25,951)

Date: September 8, 2003

KENYON & KENYON 1500 K Street, N.W., State 700 Washington, DC 20005 Tel: (202) 429-1776

Fax: (202) 429-0795

EXHIBIT 17 TO O'DOWD DECLARATION

The stamp of the Paters Office horson may be taken as acknowledging the recent, on the date stamped, of

INVENTOR(S):

SERIAL NO: FILED: TITLE: OROLP ART: [EXAMINER;

Koji sato ei di. 08/79,641 December 16, 1906 SCHEDULE SETTING AND PROCESSING SYSTEM

2316 O. Floresador

PAPERN FILEQ:

t. Status Inquiry

ICA/Imq

DEC 1 0 2008

EXHIBIT 18 TO O'DOWD DECLARATION

The stamp of the Patent Office hereon may be taken as acknowledging the receipt, on the date stamped, of:

INVENTOR(S):

Koji SATO et al.

SERIAL NO.:

08/750,641

FILED:

December 16, 1996

TITLE:

SCHEDULE SETTING AND PROCESSING SYSTEM

GROUP ART:

2316

EXAMINER:

O. Homandez

PAPERS FILED:

. Information Disclosure Statement (2 pp.)

2. 1449A/PTO - Info. Disclosure Statement by Applicant

. Foreign Patent Document - CN 1090666A

O I P IL JOSA

WEC/rl

77792/23

November 18, 2003

DEC 1 0 2008

EXHIBIT 19 TO O'DOWD DECLARATION



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

APPLICANT(s) : Koji SATO, et al.

SERIAL NO.

: 08/750,641

FILED

: December 1, 1985

FOR

: Schedule Setting and Processing System

EXAMINER

; O. Hernandez

ART UNIT

: 2310

Commissioner for Patenta P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Str:

Pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.58, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the presecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom. The filing of this information Disclosure Statement and the enclosed PTO Form No. 1449, shall not be construed as an admission that the information cited is prior art, or is considered to be material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.66(b). It is believed that no ises are due, but

DEC 1 0 2008

EXHIBIT 20 TO O'DOWD DECLARATION

The stamp of the Patent Office hereon may be taken as arknown the receipt, on the date stamped, of

INVENTORS: Koji SATO, et al. SERIAL NO.: 08/750,641

FILED

: 1December 1995

Enclosed: INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT, FORM PTO-1449, SEVEN REFS., EP SEARCH REPORT

WEC/is

77792/23

09/09/04

EXHIBIT 21 TO O'DOWD DECLARATION

OIPE STATE

PATENT

AS)

Docket No. 77792/23

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS

Koji SATO, et al.

SERIAL NO.

08/750,641

FILED

1 December 1995

FOR

SCHEDULE SETTING AND PROCESSING SYSTEM

GROUP ART UNIT:

2316

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EXAMINER

O. Hernandez

SEP 1 5 2084

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

P. O. Box 1460

Alexandria, Virginia 22318-1450

GROUP 3600

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 5 1.97 & § 1.98

· SIR:

In conformance with Applicants' duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and § 1.97(c)(1), the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449 are hereby prought to the Examiner's attention.

In compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, copies of the references are aubmitted herewith.

Statement of Relevancy

The references were cited in the European Search Report of a related European Parem Application. A copy of the Search Report is enclosed.

· Statement Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e)(1)

The undersigned attorney hereby states that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than twee months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

EXHIBIT 22 TO O'DOWD DECLARATION

PATENT Docket No. 77792/23

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventors

Koji SATO, et al.

Scrial No.

08/750,641

Filed

16 December 1996

For

SCHEDULE SETTING AND PROCESSING SYSTEM

Group Art

2316

Exeminer

O. Homandaz

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

REQUEST FOR STATUS

SIR:

A request for continued prosecution with an Information Disclosure Statement was filed in this case on 15 March 2000. A preliminary amendment was faxed to the Examiner on 29 March 2000. A change of correspondence address was filed on 30 October 2000. Thereafter, a copy of the entire file was submitted for re-construction of the lost file on 23 March 2001. A status inquiry was filed on 8 September 2003. Information Disclosure Statements were filed on 18 November 2003 and 9 September 2004, respectively.

It is respectfully requested that the undersigned be informed when an Office Action or other communication from the Patent Office may be expected in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

KENYON & KENYON

Dated: 15 September 2004

William E. Curry (Reg. No. 43,572)

1500 K Street, N.W., Suite 700

Washington, DC 20005 Tel: (202) 220-4200 Fax: (202) 220-4201

505235

The stamp of the ratent Office hereon may be taken as acknowledging the receipt, on the date stamped, of

Inventor(s): Koji SATO, et al.

Serial No..:

08/750,641

Filed:

16 December 1996

Enclosed:

REQUEST FOR STATUS

WEC/is

77792/23

09/15/04